

Toner (J. M.)

A

SKETCH OF THE LIFE

OF

HORATIO R. STORER, M. D.

BY

JOS. M. TONER, M. D.



FROM THE MEMORIAL VOLUME OF THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN
MEDICAL ASSOCIATION.

WASHINGTON, D. C.
1878.

FROM THE PRESS OF
THE INQUIRER PRINTING & PUBLISHING COMPANY,
LANCASTER, PA.

STORER, HORATIO ROBINSON, M. D., of Boston, Mass., was born in that city, February 27, 1830. He is the son of Dr. D. Humphreys Storer, of Boston, formerly Professor of Obstetrics and Medical Jurisprudence in Harvard University, and President of the American Medical Association. His younger brother, Francis H. Storer, is Professor of Agricultural Chemistry at Harvard.

The subject of this sketch attended the Boston Latin School from 1841 to 1846. He then entered Harvard University, where he graduated A. B. in 1850. In college he showed a marked inclination towards the natural sciences; was President of the Harvard Natural History Society; and was a private pupil of Agassiz and Asa Gray, and accompanied Jeffries Wyman on a trip to Labrador, himself publishing a paper on the fishes of that country ("Observations on the Fishes of Nova Scotia and Labrador, with Descriptions of New Species."—*Boston Journal of Natural History*, 1850; pp. 247-70; pl. 7-8), which had previously been studied only by Sir John Richardson. In this Dr. Storer gave evidence of the training he had received from his father, whose celebrated works on the "Fishes of Massachusetts, and North America" were published by the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. While still an undergraduate, he also spent a summer in Russia.

His medical studies were under the direction of his

father and his associates in the Tremont Medical School of Boston, the first organization in this country for thorough and systematic medical instruction, by examinations throughout the entire year; but, at the same time he attended lectures at Harvard College, where he received his degree of M. D. in 1853. Subsequently, during 1866-68, he also went through the Harvard Law School, to better fit himself for teaching Medical Jurisprudence, receiving the degree of LL. B. After his graduation in medicine, he went to Europe, and spent two years in study at Paris, London and Edinburgh, during one year of which he was assistant in private practice to Sir James Y. Simpson.

In 1855 he returned to his home, and opened an office in Boston, where he speedily acquired a select and remunerative practice. From the outset of his professional life he identified himself with leading medical men and medical institutions, not in Boston merely, but throughout the State of Massachusetts.

Dr. Storer is a man of high culture, with a vigorous and well-trained mind, a ready and forcible writer and a good debater. In 1853 he became a member of the Massachusetts Medical Society, and was generally regular in his attendance; contributed papers, and always took an active part in the proceedings and discussions. In 1865 he was elected to the chair of Obstetrics and Medical Jurisprudence in the Berkshire Medical College, a position which he filled satisfactorily until the close of this institution in 1869. The Doctor had been assistant to his father while a teacher of these branches in Harvard University, and was therefore entirely familiar with them. His manner

as a lecturer was well calculated to arouse enthusiasm in the student, for he was not only thorough, but practical, and took occasion to give direct expositions of uterine diseases in the living subject to his class, which no one had previously ventured to do, save Professor J. P. White, of Buffalo.

He was the first in this country (Dr. Peaslee having been the second), to teach gynæcology proper, as contra-distinguished from obstetrics or midwifery, his separate course upon the diseases of women, unconnected with gestation, childbed or the puerperal state, comprising no less than sixty lectures. For several years, he gave at Boston a semi-annual course to medical graduates, upon the surgical diseases of women, refusing to admit any applicant who was not marked in good standing in the American Medical Association. These lectures were attended by physicians from all parts of the country.

With Drs. Atlee, of Philadelphia, Peaslee, of New York, and Kimball, of Lowell, he came to monopolize the ovariectomies of the United States and Canada; but finally, in 1872, his health failed. In consequence of long continued and unremitting work, he got an attack of septicæmia, from which he barely escaped with his life. He then went to Europe, and there passed five years (1872-77), during which he took occasion to study practically, on a very extended scale, the fevers of Southern Italy. He has now returned to this country, and for the present has established himself, because of its comparatively mild climate, and to escape the engrossing work that would have been inevitable for him at Boston, at Newport, R. I.

His contributions to medical literature were early marked by original thought and earnestness of purpose. In 1856 he represented the Boston Lying-In Hospital in the American Medical Association, and became a member of that body at the outset of his professional career, and has ever since been a constant attendant at its meetings.

He attended the meeting of this body held at San Francisco in 1871, and was detained in California, by professional engagements, until October. By a special invitation of the California State Board of Health, he delivered a lecture in the State House at Sacramento, on "Female Hygiene." At the urgent solicitations of the physicians of San Francisco, he repeated the same lecture, in May, before a large audience in that city. This lecture was published in the Transactions of the California State Board of Health for 1871.

The great activity of his professional life can best be presented by giving a list of the institutions to which he has been attached: Physician to the Boston Lying-In Hospital; to St. Elizabeth's Hospital for Women, and to St. Joseph's Home; Consulting Surgeon to Carney General Hospital; Surgeon to the New England Hospital for Women and Children. A member of the Massachusetts Medical Society; of the Suffolk District Medical Society; of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences; of the Boston Society for Medical Observation; of the Massachusetts Medical Benevolent Society; of the Obstetrical and Medico-Chirurgical Societies of Edinburgh; one of the founders, Secretary, and now President of the Gynæcological Society of Boston (which was the first society devoted to this

specialty ever organized), and the active editor of its journal for four years; corresponding member of the Obstetrical Societies of Berlin and London; also, of the New York Medico-Legal Society; honorary member of the California State Medical Society, and also of the Canada Medical Association, the Medical Society of the Province of New Brunswick, the Louisville Obstetrical Society, and the Medical Society of Sorrento, Italy. He was admitted to the Medical Register of Great Britain, by vote of Branch Medical Council of England, December, 1876, etc. He was President of the Association of American Medical Editors, and made an admirable address before them, in San Francisco, in 1871. He was Prize Essayist and Secretary of the American Medical Association in 1865, and Vice-President in 1868; a member of the Massachusetts Lunacy Commission in 1863, and was one of the incorporators of the Massachusetts Infant Asylum for Foundlings.

The following is a partial list of the medical works and papers published by Dr. Storer. It has been compiled from the catalogue of the Surgeon-General's Library, and a list made in 1867 by the publishers of "Is it I?" and from such medical periodicals as were readily accessible. As Dr. S. himself has kept no record of what he has done, there is reason to believe that some of his papers may have escaped this search :

✓ 1855. "The Obstetric Memoirs and Contributions of Sir James Y. Simpson, Professor of Midwifery in the University of Edinburgh." Edited by his assistants, Drs. William O. Priestley (afterwards Professor of Midwifery in King's College, London, and President of the London Obstetrical Society), and H. R. Storer. Two large volumes. Edinburgh, 1855. Adam & Charles Black. Reprinted in this coun-

try in 1856, with a preface by Dr. Storer. Philadelphia, J. B. Lippincott & Co.

"A Word in Defence of an American Surgeon" (Dr. J. Mason Warren, of Boston). Controversy with Dr. Gillespie, of Edinburgh. Letter I. Read before the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Edinburgh. London Medical Times and Gazette, May, 1855. Letter II. American Journal of Medical Sciences. Philadelphia, October, 1855.

"Slippery-Elm Tents for Dilatation of the Cervix Uteri. Their First Suggestion." Article I. Read before the Medico-Chirurgical Society of Edinburgh. Association Medical Journal of London. May, 1855. Article II. Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, November, 1855.

"Boston Lying-In Hospital Reports." Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, 1855, 1856, etc.

1856. "Cases Illustrative of Obstetric Disease." Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, 1856 to 1865.

"Operation for Intra-Mural Fibrous Tumor." Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, September, 1856.

"Caustic Potash as an Application to the Interior of the Uterus; Its first Suggestion." Article I. Read before the Suffolk District Medical Society. Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, October, 1856. Article II., Ibid., October, 1858. Article III., Ibid., July, 1859.

"Cases of Nymphomania." Read before the Boston Society for Medical Observation, July, 1856. American Journal of Medical Sciences, October, 1856.

"New Form of Intra-uterine Pessary." Read before Suffolk District Medical Society. Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, November, 1856.

Review of Charles Clay's "Complete Hand-book of Obstetric Surgery." Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, November, 1856.

1857. "Removal of the Cervix Uteri for Non-Malignant Hypertrophy." New Hampshire Journal of Medicine, April, 1857.

"Report of the Committee appointed by the Suffolk District Medical Society, to consider whether any future legislation is necessary on the subject of Criminal Abortion; and to report to the Society such other means as may seem necessary for the suppression of this abominable, unnatural, yet common crime." Drs. H. R. Storer (Chairman), H. I. Bowditch, Calvin Ellis. Read before Suffolk District Medical Society, May, 1857. Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, 1857.

"Vesico-vaginal Fistula, and the Operations therefor." American Journal of Medical Sciences. October, 1857.

1858. "Cupping the Interior of the Uterus." Read before Boston Society for Medical Observation, February, 1857. American Journal of Medical Sciences, January, 1858.

1859. "The Use and Abuse of Uterine Tents." American Journal of Medical Sciences, January, 1859.

"Contributions to Obstetric Jurisprudence:" Article I. "Is Abortion ever a Crime?" North American Medico-Chirurgical Review, Philadelphia, January, 1859. Article II. "Its Frequency, and the causes thereof." Ibid., March, 1859. Article III. "Its Victims." Ibid., May, 1859. Article IV. "Its Proofs." Ibid. Article V. "Its Perpetrators." Ibid. Article VI. "Its Innocent Abettors." Ibid., July, 1859. Article VII. "Its Obstacles to Conviction." Ibid., September, 1859. Article VIII. "Can it be at all Controlled by Law?" Ibid., November, 1859. The above eight papers were subsequently published in a collective form, 1860, under the title of "Criminal Abortion in America." Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott & Co.

"Cases Illustrative of Criminal Abortion." Read before the Boston Society for Medical Observation. American Journal of the Medical Sciences, April, 1859.

"The Uterine Dilator: a New Method of Reaching the Uterine Cavity and of Inducing Premature Labor." American Journal of the Medical Sciences, July, 1859.

"Submucous Injection as a Cure for the Toothache of Pregnancy." Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, October, 1859.

1860. Report of the Committee of the American Medical Association, "to investigate the subject of Criminal Abortion, with a view to its general suppression." Drs. H. R. Storer, of Massachusetts (Chairman); T. W. Blatchford, of New York; Hugh L. Hodge, of Pennsylvania; E. H. Barton, of South Carolina; A. Lopez, of Alabama; C. A. Pope, of Missouri; W. H. Brisbane, of Wisconsin; A. J. Semmes, of District of Columbia. Rendered at Louisville, May, 1859. Transactions of American Medical Association, 1860.

1863. "Studies of Abortion." Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, February, 1863, etc.

"Artificial Dilatation of the Os and Cervix Uteri, by Fluid Pressure from Above:" a Reply to Drs. Keiller, of Edinburgh, and Arnott and Barnes, of London. Read before the Suffolk District Medical Society. Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, July, 1863.

"On Chloroform Inhalation during Labor:" A Reply to Dr. Robert Johns, of Dublin. Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, August, 1863.

"The Employment of Anæsthetics in Obstetric Medicine and Surgery." Read before the Massachusetts Medical Society, June, 1863. Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, October, 1863. The above was re-published under the title of "Eutokia : A Word to Physicians and to Women upon the Employment of Anæsthetics in Childbirth." 1863. Boston : A. Williams & Co.

1864. "The Surgical Treatment of Amenorrhœa." American Journal of the Medical Sciences. January, 1864.

"Report of the Massachusetts State Commission on Insanity ; consisting of Hon. Josiah Quincy, Jr., of Boston ; Drs. Alfred Hitchcock, of Fitchburg ; H. R. Storer, of Boston." Massachusetts Legislative Document (Senate 72). February, 1864.

"The Medical Management of Insane Women." Article I. Read before the Suffolk District Medical Society, December, 1863, and American Academy of Arts and Sciences, February, 1864. Boston Medical and Surgical Journal. April, 1864. Article II., Ibid., October, 1864. Article III., Ibid., November, 1864.

"The Relations of Female Patients to Hospitals for the Insane. The Necessity on their account of a Board of Consulting Physicians to every Hospital." Read before the American Medical Association. Transactions of the American Medical Association, 1864.

1865. "The Causation, Course and Rational Treatment of Insanity in Women. A Gynæcist's Idea thereof." Report to American Medical Association, as Chairman of its Standing Committee on Insanity. Transactions of the American Medical Association, 1865. Reprinted in 1871, by vote of the Association, under the same title. Boston : Lee & Shepard.

"Contributions to Obstetric Jurisprudence." Article IX. "A Medico-Legal Study of Rape." N. Y. Medical Journal, November, 1865.

"The Physical Evils of Forced Abortions." The Prize Essay to which the American Medical Association awarded the Gold Medal for 1865. (Dr. Storer, however, declined to receive the medal or its equivalent, \$100, as the funds of the Association were straitened, but preferred that the sum should remain in its treasury, as a virtual gift from himself.) Transactions of American Medical Association, 1865. The above was, by vote of the Association, ordered to be reprinted for general circulation, and it appeared in 1866, under the title of "Why Not? A Book for Every Woman." Boston : Lee & Shepard. The successive editions have reached many thousand copies.

1866. "Report to the American Medical Association of its Delegate to the Association of Superintendents of Asylums for the Insane." Transactions of American Medical Association, 1866.

"Successful Removal of the Uterus and both Ovaries, by Abdominal Section; the tumor, fibro-cystic, weighing thirty-seven pounds." Read before the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, November 14, 1865. American Journal of the Medical Sciences, January, 1866.

"Contributions to Obstetric Jurisprudence." Article X. "The Abatement of Criminal Abortion by Medical Men." Read before the Massachusetts Medical Society, May 30, 1866. New York Medical Journal, September, 1866.

"The Clamp Shield: an Instrument designed to lessen certain Surgical Dangers, more particularly those of Extirpation of the Uterus by Abdominal Section." Article I. Transactions of the American Medical Association, 1866. Article II. Read before the Massachusetts Medical Society, July 25, 1866. New York Medical Record, October, 1866.

"A New Operation for Umbilical Hernia, with Remarks upon Exploratory Incisions of the Abdomen." Article I. Read before the Suffolk District Medical Society. New York Medical Record, April, 1866. Article II. *Ibid.*, July, 1866.

"The Unfitness of Women for Medical Practitioners." Letter of Resignation as Surgeon to the New England Hospital for Women and Children. Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, September, 1866.

1867. "Inebriety in Women": an Appendix to the Treatise on Methomania, or Alcoholic Poisoning, by Dr. Albert Day, then Superintendent of the New York State Asylum for Inebriates, at Binghamton. Boston: James Campbell, 1867.

"On the Decrease of the Rate of Increase of Population now Obtaining in Europe and America." Read before the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, December 14, 1858. American Journal of Science and Art (Silliman's), New Haven, March, 1867.

"Is It I? A Book for Every Man." A companion to "Why Not? A Book for Every Woman." Presented to the American Medical Association in 1867. Boston, 1867: Lee & Shepard. (This volume, intended like its predecessor to prevent uterine disease and criminal abortion, has had a very extended circulation.)

"The so-called Chronic Metritis, and its Rational Treatment." Read by invitation before State Medical Society of New York. Transactions of New York State Medical Society. 1867.

"Self Abuse in Women: Its Causation and Rational Treatment." Western Journal of Medicine. Indianapolis, August, 1867.

"The Rational Treatment of Gastric Disturbances during Gestation." Detroit Review of Medicine and Pharmacy, November, 1867.

1868. "Criminal Abortion: Its Nature, its Evidence, and its Law." By H. R. Storer and F. F. Heard, LL. B. Boston, 1868: Little, Brown & Co.

"On Nurses and Nursing, with Especial Reference to the Management of Sick Women." Published for the benefit of St. Elizabeth's Hospital for Women. Boston, 1868: Lee & Shepard.

"The Present Problems in Abdominal Section: Illustrated by a successful case of Double Ovariectomy." Canadian Medical Journal. Montreal, 1868.

"Pocketing the Pedicle: A New and Successful Method of Treating the Ovarian Stump after Excision." Article I. American Journal of the Medical Sciences. January, 1868. Article II. Read by invitation before a special meeting of the New York Academy of Medicine, December 19, 1867. New York Medical Record, January, 1868.

"The Law of Rape." Quarterly Journal of Psychological Medicine and Medical Jurisprudence. January, 1868.

"The Rectum in its Relations to Uterine Disease." Article I., American Journal of Obstetrics, New York, May, 1868. Article II. Ibid., August, 1868. Article III. Ibid., November, 1868. Article IV. Ibid., February, 1869.

"Removal of Horse-shoe Pessary (Open Lever of Hodge) from the Cavity of the Female Bladder." Article I. Read before Suffolk District Medical Society. New York Medical Record, July, 1868. Article II. Journal of the Gynæcological Society of Boston, August, 1870, and Ibid., October, 1870.

"A New Reversible (Direct and Retracting) Speculum." Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, November, 1868. Journal of Gynæcological Society of Boston, May, 1870.

1869. "The Frequency and Causation of Uterine Disease in America." Journal of Gynæcological Society of Boston, July, 1869.

"An Outline History of American Gynæcology." Article I. Journal of Gynæcological Society of Boston, August, 1869. Article II. Ibid., November, 1869. Article III. Ibid., December, 1871.

"Upon Pocketing the Pedicle in Ovariectomy: A Reply to Certain Strictures by Dr. Kimball, of Lowell." Journal of Gynæcological Society of Boston, September, 1869.

"A Defence of Dr. G. H. Bixby, of Boston, against attempted Ostracism by the Censors of the Massachusetts Medical Society." *Journal of the Gynæcological Society of Boston*. October, 1869. Reprinted under the title of "*Fiat Justitia Ruat Cælum*," as an open letter to the Fellows of the Massachusetts Medical Society.

"Physicians in their Relations to Invalid Women." *Journal of the Gynæcological Society of Boston*, November, 1869.

"Golden Rules for the Treatment of Ovarian Disease." *Journal of the Gynæcological Society of Boston*, December, 1869.

"Lectures Introductory to a Course to Physicians upon the Surgical Diseases of Women." Lecture I. *Journal of the Gynæcological Society of Boston*, December, 1869. Lecture II. *Ibid.*, January, 1870.

1870. "Specialism and Especialism: Their Respective Relations to the Profession." Read before the American Medical Association, 1865, being a Minority Report of the Committee upon Specialism. *Journal of the Gynæcological Society of Boston*, January, 1870.

"The Gynæcological Society of Boston and Women Physicians:" A Reply to Mr. William Lloyd Garrison. *Journal of the Gynæcological Society of Boston*. February, 1870.

"Reproduction by Fissuration, or Longitudinal Division, in the Human Species." Read before American Academy of Arts and Sciences, September 14, 1869. *Journal of the Gynæcological Society of Boston*, March 1870.

"The Surgical Treatment of Hemorrhoids and Fistula in Ano, with their Result." *Journal of the Gynæcological Society of Boston*, April, 1870.

"Notes to Dr. Bixby's Translation of Prof. L. Mayer, on the Relations of the Female Sexual Organs to Mental Disease." *Journal of the Gynæcological Society of Boston*, May, 1870. *Ibid.*, August, 1870. *Ibid.*, April, 1871.

"Lacing the Breast: A New Operation for Removal of the Mamma." *Journal of the Gynæcological Society of Boston*. November, 1870.

"The Mutual Relations of the Medical Profession, Its Press, and the Community." Presidential Address at Annual Meeting of the Association of Editors of American Medical Journals. Delivered at San Francisco, May 1, 1871. *Journal of Gynæcological Society of Boston*, June, 1871.

"The Propriety of Operating for Malignant Ovarian Disease."

Read before San Francisco Medical Society, July 25, 1871. Journal of Gynæcological Society of Boston. September, 1871.

"Female Hygiene." A lecture delivered in the Capitol at Sacramento, and repeated at San Francisco, by request of the State Board of Health of California. First Biennial Report of California State Board of Health, 1871. Journal of the Gynæcological Society of Boston, January, 1872.

"The Massachusetts State Medical Society and the American Medical Association." Pacific Medical and Surgical Journal. May, 1871.

1872. "The Differential Diagnosis of Anal Fistula in Women, more particularly with reference to Discovering the Inner Orifice where such exists." Journal of the Gynæcological Society of Boston, March, 1872.

"The Gynæcological Cabinet of Harvard University." Journal of the Gynæcological Society of Boston. May, 1872.

1873. "On Digital Eversion of the Rectum, in Diagnosis and Treatment." London Lancet. 1873.

1875. "Southern Italy as a Health Station for Invalids." Based upon a Report rendered to the American Medical Association, in 1874, as Chairman of a Special Committee to investigate the Health Resorts of Southern Europe. Naples, 1875, Pp. 70: Richard Marghieri.

1877. "The Importance of the Uterine Ebb as a factor in Pelvic Surgery." Presented to the American Gynæcological Society at its first Annual Meeting, New York, September, 13, 1876. Summarized in Transactions of the American Gynæcological Society, Vol. I., p. 22. Edinburgh Medical Journal, January, 1877.

"The Practically Absolute Safety of Profoundly Induced Anæsthesia in Childbirth, as compared with its Employment in General Surgery." Edinburgh Medical Journal, February, 1877.

"Upon the Arsenical Atmosphere and Arsenical Hot Spring of the Solfatara at Pozzuoli (near Naples), in the Treatment of Consumptives." London Lancet, September, 1877.

In addition to the above, Professor Storer has made many shorter communications, some of them, however, of considerable length, to medical societies, upon a great variety of Gynæcological topics, has reported a long series of the major pelvic operations, and has written home medical letters from Europe. (*Vide* Journal of the Gynæcological Society of Boston, 1869-72; Boston Medical and Surgical Journal, 1876, etc.)

